

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/065,487

Examiner

John T. Haran

Applicant(s)

MORIN ET AL.

Art Unit

1733

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/23/02.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>5/18/04</u> . |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>1/22/03</u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

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DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 1/22/03 has been considered by the examiner.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Fassnacht on 5/18/04.
4. The application has been amended as follows:

In The Claims:

Amend claim 1 to read:

1. A method of producing a paperboard structure, the method comprising the steps of:

adding a radio frequency active adhesive to paperboard pulp stock;

forming a sheet from the pulp stock;

exposing the sheet to RF energy to generate heat sufficient to cause the adhesive in the sheet to soften;

arranging one or more of the sheets into at least partially overlapping relationship; and

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allowing the adhesive to harden, thereby affixing the overlapped sheets together.

Amend claim 6 to read:

6. A method of producing a multiple-ply paperboard sheet for dry bonding, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a first batch of paperboard pulp stock;

adding a radio frequency active adhesive to a second batch of paperboard pulp stock;

forming a first sheet from the first batch of pulp stock;

forming an RF adhesive impregnated sheet from the second batch of pulp stock; and

affixing one sheet to the other by arranging the sheets into an overlapping relationship and exposing the RF adhesive impregnated sheet to RF energy.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1-8 are allowed.

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to suggest the claimed method of producing a paperboard structure, particularly allowing the adhesive exposed to RF energy to harden to thereby affix the overlapped sheets together.

The prior art of record also fails to suggest the claimed method of producing a multiple-ply paperboard sheet for dry bonding, particularly affixing the sheets together

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by arranging them in overlapping fashion and exposing the RF adhesive impregnated sheet to RF energy.

Riebel et al (U.S. Patent 5,611,882) teaches making board stock by mixing an RF active adhesive binder in with pulp stock and then curing the mixture with radio frequency energy (See abstract; Column 2, lines 50-59; Column 10, lines 36-49; Column 11, lines 14-37). The RF active adhesive acts as a binder to bind the pulp together and there is no suggestion that the adhesive impregnated in the board is used to affix together overlapping sheets of similar board stock with or without the RF adhesive mixed therein.

Thomas et al (US 2003/0034117) teaches applying an aqueous-based adhesive coating to paperboard and forming a multiply core or tubular container wherein the adhesive affixes overlapping regions of one or more sheets together. The process uses RF energy to heat the aqueous adhesive to evaporate the water to allow for faster setting of the adhesive (paragraphs 0008-0010 and 0026-0027). There is no suggestion of adding a radio frequency active adhesive into the pulp stock to form a sheet and using the adhesive impregnated in the sheet to affix together overlapping sheets of similar board stock with or without the RF adhesive mixed therein.

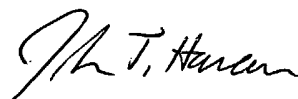
7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **John T. Haran** whose telephone number is **(571) 272-1217**. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th (8 - 5) and alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Crispino can be reached on (571) 272-1226. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


John T. Haran


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